

AT A GLANCE

General Services:

A fixed route transit program as well as para-transit service to residents of Benson and nearby areas.

Applicant Status: Local Government

Primary Service Areas: Benson, J Six/Mescal, Pomerene and St. David

Service Days/Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Transportation Funding Sources: 5311, SEAGO AAA

No. of vehicles: 5

No. of vehicles under lien: 4

No. of service sites: 1

Providing transportation services since: 2010

Annual Ridership: 11,771

Contact: Kathe Williams 120 West 6th St. Benson, AZ 85602

Tel: 520.720.6323 Email: <u>kwilliams@bensonaz.gov</u>

www.cityofbenson.com

THE CITY OF BENSON

BENSON AREA TRANSIT (BAT) JANUARY 2020

The City of Benson began delivering 5311 transit services in October 2010. Using a fixed route and a flex route the transit program provides riders with a reliable schedule as well as para-transit services through a dial-a-ride program that serves elderly and disabled riders who do not live near the fixed route stops.

Benson Area Transit currently serves the City of Benson and surrounding areas. Our mission is to build capacity with our transit system and partners to enhance Southeastern Arizona mobility.

The City of Benson recognizes the great need for a transit system in the San Pedro Valley and it relies heavily on grant funding from ADOT and the Area Agency on Aging to operate.

The City of Benson has participated in coordination efforts identified through regional coordination meetings. We currently partner with local government and non-profit agencies to increase the utilization of their services by providing needed transportation.

Moving forward, the City of Benson is looking for a planning grant to update our transit plan. With this update, BAT plans to expand the para-transit service by replacing the current DAR bus with 2 smaller vehicles. BAT needs additional operating funds to maintain and expand our service to the residents of Benson and surrounding areas and to train new and existing staff in the Transportation Program. BAT also needs additional administrating funds to expand and train support staff in the Transportation Program.

Identified unmet needs:

At this time, the residents of Benson and the surrounding areas have no way to get to the county seat of Bisbee and return the same day. Residents also need more regular and reliable transportation to Tucson for medical appointments.